

[27 April, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

News-item on Indus river

4649. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news report, "Is the Indus river returning home", published in the Hindustan Times dated 11th February, 2001;

(b) if so, Government's perception on the news report;

(c) whether any scientific study has been carried by any Government agency in the matter; and

(d) if so, the results thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) to (d) The news report is not based on any specific study. However, various Organisations namely Space Application Centre (SAC), Ahmedabad; National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA), Hyderabad; and Geological Survey of India (GSI), Kolkata have initiated scientific study after Bhuj earthquake of 26th January, 2001.

Curtailling summer holidays in Schools

4650. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that summer holidays in schools in Delhi are proposed to be curtailed from the next academic year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether representative bodies of teachers, students and the parents have been consulted in the matter and if so, their reaction to the proposal; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?